

Claims 39-42 previously were newly added claims which are amended herein.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1 (Currently Amended)

A heat protective cover for water pipes adapted to extend about a P-trap of a water pipe arrangement which may receive hot water therein and cover substantial portions of that water pipe arrangement, said heat protective cover comprising:

- a) a jacket having heat insulating qualities with a configuration similar to that of the pipe arrangement about which the jacket is to extend;
- b) an elongate slit formed in said jacket allowing said jacket to be opened at said elongate slit and spread apart so that the jacket can extend about and resiliently come together about a hot water pipe at said elongate slit;
- c) a plurality of pairs of locking fastener receiving apertures formed in portions of the jacket with each of a pair of apertures on opposite sides of said slit for releasably receiving a locking fastener to thereby

lockably hold the jacket onto the hot water pipe arrangement;

- d) pair of fastener receiving lock housings located at said elongate slit with one of the lock housings of each pair on one side of said slit and the other of each pair on the opposite side of the slit, each one of said lock housings on each side of said slit communicating with the separate apertures on that side of the slit, each aperture on one side of said slit being in alignment with an associated aperture on the opposite side of said slit and receiving a locking fastener in a releasable locking relationship when inserted into the associated apertures; ~~and~~
- e) a locking fastener for insertion into an aperture on one side of said slit and receivable in each said lock housing on opposite sides of said slit, each of said locks housings being constructed to receive and engage a locking element on said fastener, each lock housing also having a cooperating locking projection and being engaged by the locking element of the

fastener and to hold the fastener releasably locked in said lock housing; and

- f) a plurality of ribs located at an inner surface of said jacket and projecting inwardly to engage a pipe or component secured to the pipe and which ribs are longitudinally arranged in said wall of the jacket and extend substantially from the first end to the second end to thereby further insulate against heat contact and to maintain tight fitting arrangement around the pipe or component for substantially the full length thereof, except that said ribs are substantially interrupted with a gap of no ribs in regions where the jacket is curved to extend in a different direction.

2 (Currently Amended)

The heat protective cover for water pipes of Claim 1 further characterized in that said locking fasteners are also reusable so that after the jacket or a portion of the jacket has been removed from the pipe arrangement, said locking fasteners can be completely reinserted ~~in~~ into opposed pairs of said apertures and into said lock housings associated with those apertures and hold the jacket onto the hot water pipe arrangement.

3 (Previously Amended)

The heat protective cover for water pipes of Claim 1 further characterized in that said fasteners are screws and that said locking elements of each pair is adapted to receive the shank of one of said screws.

4 (Previously Amended)

The heat protective cover for water pipes of Claim 3 further characterized in that said pair of apertures are located on a curved portion of said jacket and said apertures have elliptically shaped openings.

5 (Currently Amended)

The heat protective cover for water pipes of Claim 2 further characterized in that each locking fastener has a shank which extends into a pair of apertures and includes a locking element thereon and which can be removed from one of the apertures and the locking element on the shank being retentively held in the other aperture of the pair thereby precluding loss of the locking element.

6 (Previously Amended)

The heat protective cover for water pipes of Claim 5 further characterized in that said locking fastener is a screw having a threaded shank.

7 (Currently Amended)

The heat protective cover for water pipes of Claim 5 further characterized in that said locking fastener is a pin having enlarged ends which are tapered outwardly providing ~~individually~~ inwardly facing opposed locking shoulders.

8 (Previously Amended)

The heat protective cover for water pipes of Claim 5 further characterized in that said apertures and locking housings are each adapted to receive at least two different types of locking fasteners.

9 (Currently Amended)

A heat protective cover for water pipes which may receive hot water therein and which are adapted to extend about a P-trap of a water pipe arrangement and cover substantial portions of that water pipe arrangement, said heat protective cover comprising:

- a) a jacket having heat insulating qualities with a configuration similar to that of the pipe arrangement about which the jacket is to extend;
- b) an elongate slit formed in said jacket allowing said jacket to be opened at said ~~split~~ slit and extend about a water pipe forming part of the pipe arrangement;
- c) apertures formed in portions of the jacket adjacent both sides of said slit for releasably receiving a fastener in each set of apertures to thereby lockably hold the jacket onto the water pipe arrangement; ~~and~~
- d) pair of fastener receiving lock housings located at certain of said apertures and arranged at said elongate ~~split~~ slit with one of the lock housings of each pair associated with the aperture on one side of said slit and the other of the lock housings of each pair associated with the aperture on the

opposite side of the slit, said lock housings on each side of said slit communicating with the associated apertures, such that each aperture on one side of said slit is in general alignment with an associated aperture on the opposite side of said slit, and each of said lock housings being sized for receiving a locking fastener in a releasable locking relationship when inserted into that aperture, said apertures and associated lock housings being arranged to receive at least two different types of locking fasteners which have different locking actions-; and

- e) a plurality of ribs located at an inner surface of said jacket and projecting inwardly to engage a pipe or component secured to the pipe and which ribs are longitudinally arranged in said wall of the jacket and extend substantially from the first end to the second end to thereby further insulate against heat contact and to maintain tight fitting arrangement around the pipe or component for substantially the full length thereof, except that said ribs are substantially interrupted with a gap of no

ribs in regions where the jacket is curved to
extend in a different direction.

10 (Previously Amended)

The heat protective cover for water pipes of Claim 9 further characterized in that said locking fastener is a pin having enlarged ends which are tapered providing individually facing opposed locking shoulders.

11 (Cancelled)

12 (Previously Amended)

The heat protective cover for water pipes of Claim 9 further characterized in that said pair of apertures are located on a curved portion of said jacket and said apertures have elliptically shaped openings.

13 (Currently Amended)

A heat protective cover for hot water pipes adapted to extend about a P-trap of a pipe arrangement which may carry hot water and cover a substantial portion of that pipe arrangement, said heat protective cover comprising:

- a) a jacket having heat insulating qualities with a configuration similar to that of the pipe arrangement about which the jacket is to extend and being formed of a resiliently deformable material;
- b) an elongate ~~split~~ slit formed in said jacket allowing said jacket to be opened at said ~~split~~ slit and extend about a hot water pipe;
- c) apertures formed in portions of the jacket adjacent both sides of said slit forming sets of apertures thereof for releasably receiving a fastener in each set of apertures to thereby lockably hold the jacket onto the hot water pipe arrangement;
- d) elongate fasteners sized for insertion into each of said apertures of a pair to lockably hold the portions of the jacket on both sides of said slit together, said fasteners comprising a shank and an enlarged end section at an end thereof; ~~and~~

- e) the material forming part of said jacket surrounding said apertures being sufficiently yieldable and deformable so that the enlarged end section of each fastener snugly fits within the aperture and essentially fills said aperture and with the material returning to its original shape thereby reducing the possibility of engagement by a tool and unauthorized removal thereof; and
- f) a plurality of ribs located at an inner surface of said jacket and projecting inwardly to engage a pipe or component secured to the pipe and which ribs are longitudinally arranged in said wall of the jacket and extend substantially from the first end to the second end to thereby further insulate against heat contact and to maintain tight fitting arrangement around the pipe or component for substantially the full length thereof, except that said ribs are substantially interrupted with a gap of no ribs in regions where the jacket is curved to extend in a different direction.

14 (Original)

The heat protective cover for hot water pipes of Claim 13 further characterized in that said enlarged end section is a head of a screw and the shank is a threaded shank of that screw and the head fits within that aperture tightly to fill up the aperture.

15 (Original)

The heat protective cover for hot water pipes of Claim 14 further characterized in that said head is an Allens head requiring an Allens head tool to enable removal thereof.

16 (Currently Amended)

The heat protective ~~cove~~ cover for hot water pipes of Claim 13 further characterized in that said fastener is a pin having a pair of opposite enlarged end sections.

A heat protective cover for ~~hot~~ water pipes forming part of a P-trap arrangement adapted to extend about ~~a hot water pipe arrangement~~ that P-trap arrangement and cover substantial portions of that ~~hot water pipe~~ P-trap arrangement, said ~~heat~~ protective cover comprising:

- a) a jacket having heat insulating qualities with a configuration similar to that of the pipe arrangement about which the jacket is to extend;
- b) an elongate slit allowing said jacket to be spread apart and fitted about said P-trap arrangement;
- ~~b)~~c) pair of fastener receiving lock housings located at said elongate slit with one of the lock housings of each pair on one side of said slit and the other of each pair of lock housings on the opposite side of the slit, said lock housings on each side of said slit communicating with separate apertures, such that each aperture on one side of said slit is in direct alignment with an associated aperture on the opposite side of said slit and receiving a locking fastener in a

releasable locking relationship when inserted into ~~that~~ each aperture;

~~c)~~d) a locking element in each said lock housing and being constructed to receive a specified type of locking fastener and to positively hold and lock the fastener in a releasably locked position in said ~~locking~~ lock housing;
and

~~d)~~e) a separate fastener inserted into certain of said pairs of apertures, each fastener being comprised of an elongate shank and an enlarged locking tab at each of the opposite ends of said fastener shank, each said enlarged tab engageable with a shoulder in said aperture such that each fastener is engaged in and releasably held in said locking element in said separate aperture;
and

f) a plurality of ribs located at an inner surface of said jacket and projecting inwardly to engage a pipe or component secured to the pipe and which ribs are longitudinally arranged in said wall of the jacket and extend substantially from the first end to the second end to thereby

further insulate against heat contact and to maintain tight fitting arrangement around the pipe or component for substantially the full length thereof, except that said ribs are substantially interrupted with a gap of no ribs in regions where the jacket is curved to extend in a different direction.

18 (Currently Amended)

The ~~heat~~ protective cover of Claim 17 further characterized in that said locking element comprises an elongate channel ~~therein~~ extending through said lock housing and a pair of recesses in said channel adapted to receive a ~~porion~~ portion of said shank of the fastener and hold same.

19 (Currently Amended)

The ~~heat~~ protective cover of Claim 18 further characterized in that said fastener is a pin having a pair of enlarged ends providing inwardly facing opposed shoulders which engage ~~said~~ recesses in said lock housing.

20 (Currently Amended)

The ~~heat~~ protective cover of Claim 18 further characterized in that said fastener is a screw having a shank and treads on said shank, and the portion of the shank is engaged and is held ~~is~~ by

said threads on the shank of the fastener engaging with recesses in the channel.

21 (Currently Amended)

The ~~heat~~ protective cover of Claim 18 further characterized in that said apertures and locking elements are each adapted to receive at least two different types of locking fasteners.

A ~~heat~~ protective cover system for ~~hot~~ water pipes which may carry hot water and which cover system is comprised of a plurality of jackets which are capable of being coupled together to cover ~~hot~~ water pipes of a ~~particular~~ P-trap pipe configuration, said ~~heat~~ protective cover system comprising:

- a) a generally cylindrically shaped first jacket capable of being wrapped about a portion of ~~a~~ said pipe configuration, said first jacket having a diametrally enlarged end section which provides a socket;
- b) a second jacket also capable of being wrapped about another adjacent portion of the pipe configuration, the second jacket having an end portion which is sized to snugly fit within the socket of said first jacket;
- c) a cylindrically shaped abutment flange formed on the inner end of said first jacket and being located to receive and engage an end of the second jacket; ~~and~~
- d) fastener receiving apertures on said first jacket for receiving a fastener extending between opposed sides of a longitudinal slit in said jackets and in an orientation which will thereby clamp an end portion of said

first jacket about said second jacket and
thereby lockably hold the jackets together;
and

- e) a plurality of ribs located at an inner
surface of said jacket and projecting
inwardly to engage a pipe or component
secured to the pipe and which ribs are
longitudinally arranged in said wall of the
jacket and extend substantially from the
first end to the second end to thereby
further insulate against heat contact and to
maintain tight fitting arrangement around the
pipe or component for substantially the full
length thereof, except that said ribs are
substantially interrupted with a gap of no
ribs in regions where the jacket is curved to
extend in a different direction.

23 (Currently Amended)

The ~~heat~~ protective cover system for ~~hot~~ water pipes of
Claim 22 further characterized in that said abutment flange is
located ~~close~~ in close proximity to an open end of said first jacket
and forms a receiving space extending from said open end of said
first jacket to said abutment flange ~~for receiving an end of to~~
thereby receive the second jacket.

24 (Currently Amended)

The ~~heat~~ protective cover system for ~~hot~~ water pipes of Claim 22 further characterized in that both of said jackets have longitudinal slits allowing the jackets to be spread apart and to be resiliently wrapped about pipe sections they are designed to cover and which will thereupon resiliently close about said pipe sections.

25 (Currently)

The ~~heat~~ protective cover system for ~~hot~~ water pipes of Claim 24 further characterized in that each of said jackets have pairs of aligned apertures on opposite sides of said slit to receive fasteners and thereby lock the jackets on the pipe sections they are designed to cover.

26 (Currently Amended)

The ~~heat~~ protective cover system for ~~hot~~ water pipes of Claim 22 further characterized in that each said socket of said first jacket has adjacent the end thereof one of an inner diametrally reduced protuberance or a diametrally enlarged recess and the second jacket has the other of the protuberance or the recess, such that the protuberance fits within the recess.

27 (Currently Amended)

The ~~heat~~ protective cover system for ~~hot~~ water pipes of Claim 26 further characterized in that said ~~protuberances~~ protuberance and recess are both resilient and allow the protuberance to extend into said recess in a type of snap fitting engagement therewith and thereby lock the first and second jackets together.

A ~~heat~~ protective cover system for ~~hot~~ water pipes of a P-trap comprised of a plurality of jackets which are capable of being coupled together to cover ~~hot~~ water pipes of a particular P-trap pipe configuration, said ~~heat~~ protective cover system comprising:

- a) a first jacket capable of being wrapped about a portion of ~~a~~ the pipe configuration, said first jacket having an end section which provides a socket;
- b) a second jacket also capable of being wrapped about another adjacent portion of the pipe configuration, the second jacket having an end ~~portion~~ section which is sized to ~~snugly~~ fit within the socket of said first jacket; and
- c) said first jacket having a portion which is tapered toward said socket and said second jacket has a portion of the second end section thereof tapered toward ~~the end which fits~~ and sized to fit within the socket, ~~the taper of one of said jackets being an outwardly diverging taper, such that the end is enlarged and the taper of the other of the jackets being an inwardly converging taper,~~ such that when the end section of the

second jacket is fitted within the socket, the overall appearance of the jackets is that they have an essentially uniform diameter throughout and one is an extension of the other.

29 (Currently Amended)

The ~~heat~~ protective cover system for ~~hot~~ water pipes of Claim 28 further characterized in that the end section of the first jacket at the socket is tapered outwardly and the end section of the second jacket to be received at the socket is tapered inwardly.

30 (Currently Amended)

The ~~heat~~ protective cover system for ~~hot~~ water pipes of Claim 29 further characterized in that the degree of taper on the first jacket is approximately the same as the degree of taper on the second jacket.

A protective jacket for disposition around a pipe of a P-trap which may carry hot water to prevent contact with and potential for burn injury, said jacket comprising:

- a) a jacket having an outer wall formed of a resilient flexible and bendable material capable of being wrapped about a portion of the pipe, said wall having a length extending about a portion of the length of the pipe and having a first open end and an opposite second open end;
- b) ~~a~~ an elongate slit in said jacket allowing said outer wall to be opened at said slit and fit about a pipe with the resiliency of the material allowing the portions of the jacket at said slit to come back together; and
- c) ~~fins~~ a plurality of ribs located at an inner surface of said jacket and projecting inwardly to engage a pipe or component secured to the pipe and which ~~fins~~ ribs are longitudinally arranged in said wall of the jacket and extend substantially from the first end to the second end to thereby further insulate against heat contact and to maintain tight fitting arrangement around the

pipe or component for substantially the full length thereof, except that said ribs are substantially interrupted with a gap of no ribs in regions where the jackets are curved to extend in a different direction.

32 (Currently Amended)

The protective jacket for disposition around a pipe which may carry hot water of Claim 31 further characterized in that said ~~fins~~ ribs are also formed of a flexible and bendable material so that they will deflect to accommodate a pipe or component on the pipe.

33 (Currently Amended)

The protective jacket for disposition around a pipe which may carry hot water of Claim 32 further characterized in that said ~~fins~~ ribs are formed of a material which also has sufficient rigidity to hold the weight of the jacket on a vertical section of pipe through frictional engagement with the pipe and/or a component on the pipe.

34 (Currently Amended)

The protective jacket for disposition around a pipe which may carry hot water of Claim 32 further characterized in that pairs of apertures are formed in portions of the jacket with one aperture of each pair adjacent ~~both sides~~ each side of said slit for releasably

receiving a fastener in each ~~set~~ pair of apertures to thereby lockably hold the jacket onto the hot water pipe arrangement.

35 (Currently Amended)

The protective jacket for disposition around a pipe which may carry hot water of Claim 34 further characterized in that pairs of fastener receiving lock housings are located at said elongate ~~split~~ slit with one of the lock housings of each pair on one side of said slit and the other of each pair of lock housings on the opposite side of the slit, said lock housings on each side of said slit communicating with separate apertures, such that each aperture on one side of said slit is in direct alignment with an associated aperture on the opposite side of said slit and receiving a locking fastener in a releasable locking relationship when inserted into the associated apertures and lock housings.

36 (Currently Amended)

A fastener for use ~~with a heat~~ protective ~~covers~~ cover of the type disposed over ~~pipes~~ a pipe of a P-trap which may carry hot water and which cover has ~~have~~ an elongate slit allowing such ~~covers~~ cover to be spread apart for removal and enveloply close about a pipe to cover a section of a pipe section, said fastener comprising:

- a) an elongate shank;
- b) a pair of enlarged ends at each of the opposite ends of said shank; and
- c) a shoulder abutment surface on each of the enlarged ends and being sized and located to engage shoulders in apertures on opposite sides of said elongate slit in ~~each of~~ the protective ~~covers~~ cover.

37 (Previously Amended)

The fastener of Claim 36 further characterized in that said abutment surfaces are relatively flat and engage shoulders which are relatively flat.

38 (Previously Amended)

The fastener of Claim 37 further characterized in that said shoulder abutment surfaces form part of rounded ends and which rounded ends are of sufficient size to fill an aperture into which they are inserted.

A ~~heat~~ protective cover for ~~hot~~ water pipes adapted to extend about a ~~hot water~~ P-trap pipe arrangement and cover substantial portions of that ~~hot water~~ P-trap pipe arrangement, said ~~heat~~ protective cover comprising:

- a) a jacket having heat insulating qualities with a configuration similar to that of the pipe arrangement about which the jacket is to extend;
- b) an elongate slit extending along said jacket for resiliently allowing the cover to fit about a pipe arrangement;
- ~~b)~~c) a locking pair of fastener receiving lock housings located at said elongate ~~split~~ slit with one of the lock housings of each pair on one side of said slit and the other of each pair on the opposite side of the slit, said lock housings on each side of said slit communicating with separate apertures, such that each aperture on one side of said slit is in direct alignment with an associated aperture on the opposite side of said slit and ~~receiving~~ sized to receive a locking

fastener in a releasable locking relationship when inserted into that aperture;

c)d) a locking element in each said lock housing and being constructed to receive a specified type of locking fastener and to positively hold and lock the fastener in a releasably locked position in said lock housing; and

d)e) a plurality of ribs located at an inner surface of said jacket and projecting inwardly to engage a pipe or component secured to the pipe and which ribs are longitudinally arranged in said wall of the jacket and extend substantially from the first end to the second end to thereby further insulate against heat contact and to maintain tight fitting arrangement around the pipe or component for substantially the full length thereof, except that said ribs are substantially interrupted with a gap of no ribs in regions where the jacket is curved to extend in a different direction.

A ~~heat~~ protective cover system for ~~hot~~ water pipes forming part of a P-trap pipe configuration and comprised of a plurality of jackets which are capable of being coupled together to cover ~~hot~~ water pipes of ~~a~~ the particular P-trap pipe configuration, said ~~heat~~ protective cover system comprising:

- a) a generally cylindrically shaped first jacket capable of being wrapped about a portion of a pipe configuration, said first jacket having a diametrally enlarged end section which provides a socket;
- b) a second jacket also capable of being wrapped about another portion of the pipe configuration, the second jacket having an end portion which is sized to snugly fit within the socket of said first jacket;
- c) said socket of said first jacket having adjacent the end thereof one of an inner diametrally reduced protuberance or a diametrally enlarged recess; ~~and~~
- d) the second jacket having the other of the protuberance or the recess, such that the protuberance fits within the recess; and
- e) a plurality of ribs located at an inner surface of each said jacket and projecting

inwardly to engage a pipe or component secured to the pipe and which ribs are longitudinally arranged in said surface of the jackets and extend substantially from the first end to the second end to thereby further insulate against heat contact and to maintain tight fitting arrangement around the pipe or component for substantially the full length thereof, except that said ribs are substantially interrupted with a gap of no ribs in regions where the jacket is curved to extend in a different direction.

41 (New - Currently Amended)

The heat protective cover system for hot water pipes of Claim 40 further characterized in that said protuberances and recess are both resilient and allow the protuberance to extend into said recess in a type of snap fitting engagement therewith and thereby lock the first and second jackets together.

42 (New - Currently Amended)

The heat protective cover system for hot water pipes of Claim 22 further characterized in that both of said jackets have longitudinal slits allowing the jackets to be spread apart and to be wrapped about pipe sections they are designed to cover and which

will thereupon resiliently close about said pipe sections, and ~~that~~
that each of said jackets have pairs of aligned apertures on
opposite sides of said slit to receive fasteners and thereby lock
the jackets on the pipe sections they are designed to cover.